

Capitol
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

news

MARCH • 1950

Vol. 8 • No. 3

KAY STARR

EDITED BY DAVE DEXTER, JR.



And Goes Out Like A Lamb . . .

Mardi Gras visitors to New Orleans piled into the tiny Moulin Rouge Club on leapin' Bourbon street after spotting the huge "Kay Starr-In Person" signboards outside. But they rushed right out again when "Kay Starr" turned out to be a big, blonde—well, she didn't sing and she based her n. g. act on a G-string. Yep, this column, down there cutting records, fell for it too. . . . Bob Crosby will drop that ABC jockey chore, which will leave him with inerely two other network programs. . . . Ever hear of Eagle Rock, Cal.??? Two sock groups just opened there (it's right smack between Pasadena and Hollywood) and both combos deserve heavy patronage. Albert Nicholas of clary fame fronts a fiver at Virginia's Cafe. Nearby, Brodie Shroff, using the haw-haw handle of Michael Brodie, is featuring his own cornet and Marv Wright's piano at the Double H Club. . . . Lillie Greenwood is Roy Milton's choice as his new thrush. . . . Hey! Sir James Dorsey is gettin' real hot at the wickets now that he's back blowin' his own kind of music again. . . . And 10-year-old Frank Robinson did better at the New York Strand in February than a half-dozen "big name" stars who worked the house ahead of him. That's Sugar Chile!!

Vic Damone's in a dither. He's just bought a big California house, he is moving his mother out from Brooklyn and on June 1, he will report to MGM for his first movie role. The studio asserts that Vic will have a fat role and big billing in "The Last Time I Saw Paris" with Jane Powell. Title was changed from "Nancy Goes to Paris" and may be changed again. . . . Peg Lee rubs elbows with the folk who knew her when this month, spending several days in North Dakota—her birthplace—before she opens at the Chase in St. Louie St. Pat's Day. And that reminds that both Peggy and Jo Stafford were offered Evelyn Knight's spot on the CBS "Club 15" stanza. Neither accepted.

Anita Gets Religion!?!?

Solo pianists are back in style again, at least in Los Angeles. As the Cap News rolled, Art Tatum, Jess Stacy, Bill Early, Mel Henke, Andre Previn, Walter Gross, Matt Dennis and Freddy Slack were all holding down nitery spots, and 88'ers Nat Cole, Chuy Reyes, Jack Fina and Claude Thornhill were leading groups, too. . . . Anita O'Day has frantically been petitioning Woody Herman and Herman's mentor, Carlos Gastel, for the chirpee spot with the new Herman "big" band which goes into New York's Bop City next month. O'Day tells them she's been saved. Even takes a Bible to work, she claims. . . . A new little band, just formed in Hollywood as competition to the Firehouse Five, Plus Two, calls itself the Six Alarm Six. Being Dixielanders, they'll probably be working steadily despite their brazen imitation of a colorful little combo which is attracting national attention.

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Herman Rounding Up His Herd Again

17 Men Sought For Bop City Job

Woody Herman has eyes for a "big band" again.

Although he and his little Woodchoppers combo will open March 15 at Ciro's in San Francisco, Woody definitely will junk the group after a two-week run and reorganize a full-sized crew to open at New York's Bop City April 12.

Ralph Burns Chief Arranger

The Bop City engagement, running through May 3, has been postponed several times. Herman's contract calls for 17 men and a girl singer and that's just what he will have when he opens.

The girl hasn't been set yet, Herman said. Mary Ann McCall is out working as a single and will not return. Anita O'Day and Trudy Richards are among the candidates for the slot, it was said.

'Pretty Music' Slated

Ralph Burns will write all the arrangements for the new herd. He's already started, and Woody, likewise, is already seeking musicians. Just what style of music will be featured hasn't been made clear, this far in advance, but Herman's handlers declared the coming crew would lean heavier on "pretty music" than did his last big outfit. "Early Autumn," Woody's most successful Capitol record to date, typifies the "pretty" sound Herman intends to emphasize, it was said by his manager, Carlos Gastel. "But the band, of course, will jump when it has to," he added.

Woody will feature a small band within the band. Since early December he's been fronting the small combo on all his jobs, including a three-weeker in Havana.



THAWING OUT at her California home after a wintry trek to Washington where she sang at a command performance for President Truman under auspices of the White House Correspondents, Jo Stafford ponders the irony of her latest waxing, "On Miami Shores." It's a waltz dating back to 1921 but Jo wraps it up in '50 style. Right now, a bit beat from travel, Jo intends to stay put in sunny Cal. . . . at least until the rest of the nation boosts its Fahrenheit readings.

Bop Stopped — Eckstine

One of the world's most powerful bop fans, Billy Eckstine himself, proposed last month in Hollywood that bebop is dead.

In a radio interview from Ciro's with Johnny Grant over KLAC, Eckstine recalled how he, personally, had led a thrilling bop band for several seasons, unsuccessfully, and how Diz Gillespie, Charlie Parker and other cool flatted-fifthers were featured. "But bop has stopped," B ruefully told Grant. "It all sounds alike now, too tame. Someone will have to come along and create something new in bop, take it a step forward. There's no one around right now. Bop's pioneers have quit pioneering."

Eckstine pulled capacity audiences at his two Gene Norman concerts before going north to San Francisco. He also guested on a dozen disc-jock shows. Milt Ebbins, his manager, accompanied him on the California trek.

Red Nichols Moves; Daily On The Road

Red Nichols hops up Vine street, in Hollywood, from the Hangover Club to Sardi's Monkey Room starting March 1 for an engagement which may run a year or two. Pete Dailly, leaving Sardi's, will hit the road with his Dixie gang. It appeared that Nappy Lamare's combo might snag the Hangover stand; his new aggregation (with neon in the tuba) is one of the hottest attractions in California right now.



WELL, THINGS finally got so tough in certain Los Angeles niteries that the Zomba inaugurated a trend by tossing out its singers, dance acts and musicians and hiring a gang of wrestlers.

Bud Abbott and Lou Costello served as referees opening night and the new policy may prove a big success—the Zomba got fat publicity breaks in all the papers. It also proved the potency of television. Out here in California, Baron Leone, Argentine Rocca and Lord Blears are as prominent as, say, Berle or Hopper.

Musicians' Local 47 moved into its multi-million-dollar new building on Hollywood's Vine street with a banquet which lasted all day and all night. No one has computed how many thousands of dollars were spent celebrating.

But a lot of the musicians who saw the festivities on television mentioned the fact that more than 10,000 of the union's 14,800 members have no jobs.

Joe Graves, former Jimmy Dorsey trumpeter who was banged up seriously in a motor crash last fall, is back in Hollywood after long siege in the hospital.

Lois Butler, just 19, has been given a new 3-year contract as a singer and actress at Eagle-Lion Studios. She was featured on Cap waxings as a canary when she was only 14.

Phil Harris and Alice Faye will wind up their current air series for Rexall soon. Sponsor has been paying them \$14,500 a week.

After closing at the Oasis in late February, Sarah Vaughan will open on March 2 for a week



EIGHTEEN hospitals in the city of New York were recipients of record albums last month, Capitol and WNEW's Martin Block joining forces to make the donations. The children's wards are now stocked solidly with new discs, and Block, who also announces on the networks, is pictured amid the empty cartons after personally toting the wax packages to the ailing youngsters.

at the Million Dollar Theater in Los Angeles. Tabbed to lead the band behind her at the theater is Benny Carter with a crew of Angeleno tooters.

Martha Stewart, not Vivian Blaine as originally planned, teamed up with the Blackburn Twins after Janet Blair left them to rehearse for the leading fem role in "South Pacific."

Columbia Pictures, with Kay Starr, Bob Crosby and Frankie Laine already signed for roles, announced that KLAC jockey Al Jarvis also has been set to appear in forthcoming "When You're Smiling" film musical. The film goes into production next month.

Cocoanut Grove Books Garber For March Run

Swinging back to Southern California after a long trek which took his band into every section of the United States, Jan Garber will open March 7 at the Cocoanut Grove of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. His crew is set for four weeks and will replace the current Jack Finak as the Grove's bandstand attraction.

Garber's last hotel date in Los Angeles was at the Biltmore, top rival to the Ambassador. He also played Catalina Island's Casino last summer. He's said to be garnering \$2,750 per week on the coming Grove stand.

Also sharing billing with the Garberites this month will be Evelyn Knight, who will be featured in the room's show as a single.

The Grove's management also has booked Phil Spitalny's all-femme orchestra for a month, beginning April 4. The run will mark Spitalny's first "location" job in Southern California.

In previous years, Freddy Martin's men held down the Grove job for the entire fall and winter season.

Mocambo Nabs Kitty Kallen

Signed to follow the current Billy Daniels as featured vocalist at Mocambo, on Hollywood's Sunset Strip, is Kitty Kallen.

Daniels, a tenor, opened Feb. 22. Miss Kallen will sweep in on March 14 and will be making her debut in west coast niteries. Before she became a singing single a few seasons back, Kitty chirped with the Jack Teagarden, Jimmy Dorsey and Harry James bands.

MIDWEST HAILS NEW KENTON ORK 15 Cities Set For March Dates

Roaring into the frigid Middlewest after a cyclonic tour of the Pacific coast with his startling and spectacular 40-piece orchestra, Stan Kenton will this month present concerts in 15 cities, three of them across the border in Canada.

Reaction to the 1950 brand of Kentonia has proven exciting.

New Album Out This Month

"We can't expect every person in every audience to be enthused," Kenton said in late February after playing 14 dates. "But the average is high. And some of the people who have come backstage at the close of the concerts have even told me they weren't sure they liked our new music, but at least it is interesting. And that they'd come back to hear more."

Stan's big album, just recorded in February and rushed by Capitol to the market, is scheduled for release in early March. "Innovations" is the title Kenton selected for the package and it superbly reveals the revolutionary new

Stan Kenton's March Itinerary

- March 3—Madison, Wis.
5—Milwaukee.
8—St. Paul, Minn.
9—Des Moines, Ia.
11—Opera House, St. Louis.
12—Murat Theater, Indianapolis.
15—Columbus, O.
16—Music Hall, Cleveland.
17—Syria Mosque, Pittsburgh.
18—Taft Theater, Cincinnati.
19—Detroit, Mich.
23—Niagara Falls, Ont., Canada.
24—London, Ont., Canada.
25—Music Hall, Buffalo.
30—Toronto, Ont., Canada.

type of jazz Kenton is offering. The selections, in fact, were made as the result of suggestions given Stan after his first "workshop preview" rehearsal in late January at the Los Angeles Philharmonic Auditorium. Fans, radio jocks and newspapermen attended the event as Kenton's guests.

June Christy is appearing as vocal soloist on the tour, which will end in late April.

Won't Play For Dancing

Kenton then will retire to his California home again to write new music and prepare for his 1951 tour starting next February. His new music is available only to concert audiences; he refuses to play ballrooms and theaters.

Only one of the concerts this month will be on a college campus. The University of Wisconsin at Madison will play host to Kenton's "Innovations" on March 3.

Serious Critics Attend

In virtually every city where his new aggregation has performed, serious critics from the daily news-

(More on Page 14)



IN STARTLING contrast to the "progressive" jazz which Stan Kenton is presenting in concerts this month, down in old New Orleans Sharkey and his Kings of Dixieland are also winning praise for their music. It's strictly traditional. That's Sharkey Bonano, leader, on trumpet at left. Then Santo Pecora, trombone; Monk Hazel, drums; Lester Bouchon, greatest Dixie clarinetist since Fazola; Chink Martin, tuba, and Jeff Riddick, piano. The band, now recording things like "Over The Waves" and "I'm Satisfied With My Gal" for Capitol, doubles every night at the plushy Hotel Roosevelt Blue Room and the Famous Door niteriy in the Mardi Gras city.

Capitol Western Hits

'CRY OF THE WILD GOOSE' * - Tennessee Ernie

'DUST' * - Jimmy Wakely

'WITH MEN WHO KNOW TOBACCO BEST
(IT'S WOMEN TWO TO ONE)' * - Tex Williams

'I LOVE YOU BECAUSE' - Leon Payne

'CHATTANOOGIE SHOE SHINE BOY' *
- Tommy Duncan

'GIVE A LITTLE, TAKE A LITTLE' * - Hank Thompson

'K.C. BOOGIE' * - Aubrey Gass

'RAG MOP' * - Roy Hogsed Trio

'BLOODSHOT EYES' * - Ann Jones - Smokey Rogers

'UNFAITHFUL ONE' * - Eddie Kirk

* Available on either 78 or 45 rpm



HERE'S HOW an unknown girl becomes a star. Betty Holliday of Washington, D. C., was hired by Ray Anthony a few weeks back to take over Pat Baldwin's vocal spot with the Anthony band. Then Ray took Betty to the New York studios of Bruno of Hollywood, famed photog, who is shown making the first glamor negs on Betty while Anthony (center) beams. Later this month, Betty will broadcast over the networks from the Cafe Rouge of the New York Hotel Statler.

Ray Anthony To Statler With 2 New Singers

Not three hours after he signed contracts to open at the swank Cafe Rouge of the New York Hotel Statler in late March, Ray Anthony received a wire from Earl Vollmer of the Hollywood Palladium offering him four weeks at the west coast spot.

But inasmuch as the Palladium engagement was at the same time as the Statler run, Anthony declined the Pally offer and will probably work it into his schedule in late summer or fall.

Anthony, whose band is regarded as the fastest rising young crew in the country, lost his sparrow Pat Baldwin last month when Pat was forced to check out to await motherhood. Anthony promptly signed an unknown brunette from Washington, D. C., Betty Holliday, just 21, who was discovered by Jackson Lowe of Station WWDC.

Another change in the vocal department finds Dick Noel out and Ronnie Deauville back in as Anthony's baritone soloist. Deauville is remembered for his singing of "Gloria."

Ray, his trumpet and band just concluded a long tour which included one-nighters, college dates, locations at the New Orleans Roosevelt and Memphis Peabody and a heavy recording schedule. In order to add the best in Dixieland arrangements to his book, the youthful Ohio maestro has had Deane Kincaide turning out some special new manuscript, all of it with a definite New Orleans street parade flavor. Most of Anthony's arrangements, however, lean towards a modern Glenn Miller style. Ray played trumpet in the old Miller ork before World War II.

Bob Crosby Returns To CBS; Dick Haymes Off

With Dick Haymes voluntarily leaving the "Club 15" program over CBS in order to resume his career as a flicker actor, Bob Crosby becomes the busiest guy in the music business.

Crosby already is doing his own Pet Milk show from New York on NBC and his own disc jockey program Saturdays via the ABC web. He will thus be heard on three networks regularly. Bob also will be commuting from New York to Hollywood via airplane in order to handle all his mike commitments.

Crosby, best known as leader of a punching Dixieland band from 1935 through 1942, was fea-

tured on the "Club 15" series once before. The sponsor allowed his option to drop and chose Haymes to replace him.

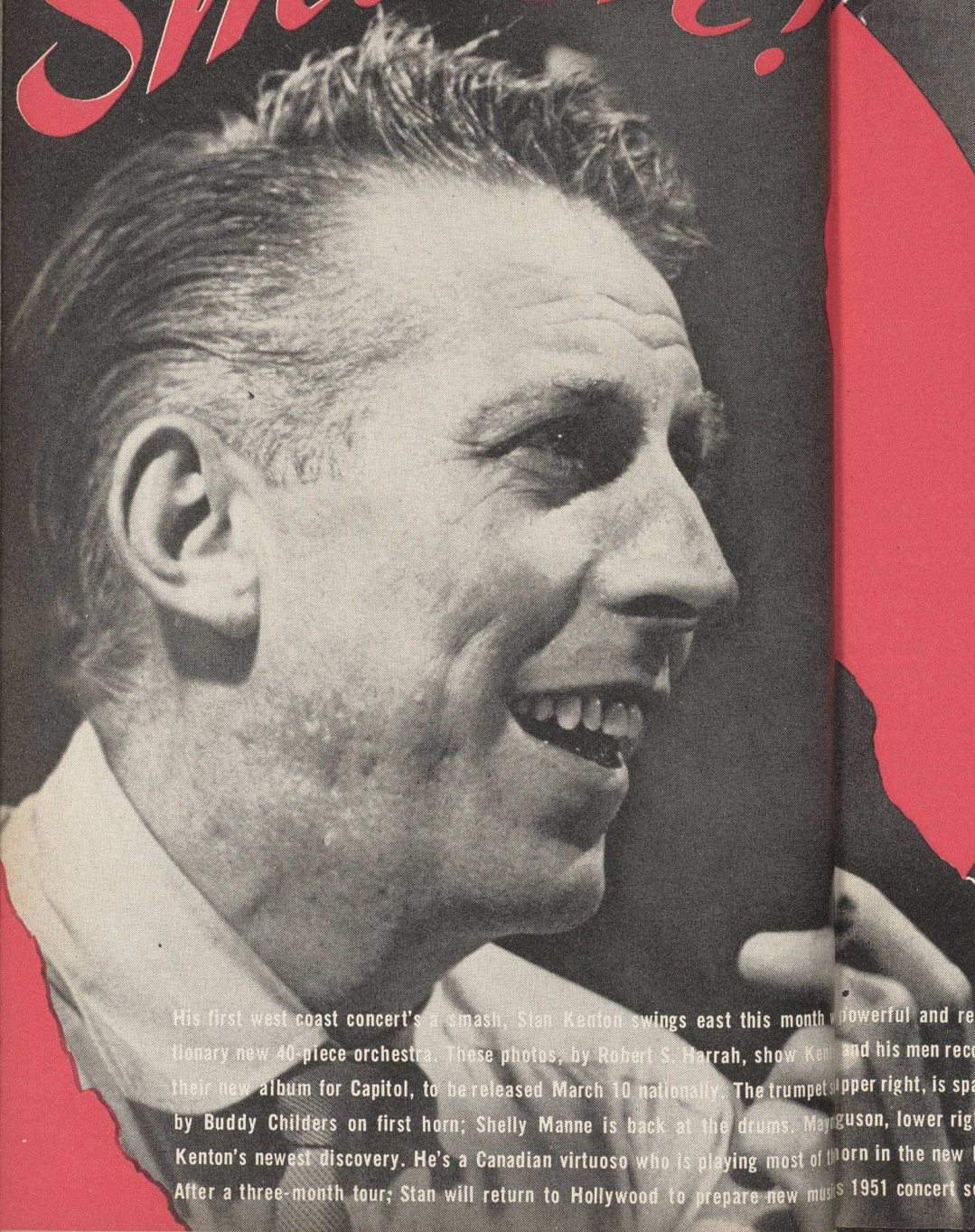
As for Haymes, he heads for New York to star in an independent film production of "St. Benny, The Dip," a story of a crook, with strong religious overtones. He will remain east for a "couple of months, maybe longer," he said.

The Andrews Sisters, the Modernaires and Jerry Gray's band are expected to remain on "Club 15" with Crosby indefinitely, it was said.

Contino Due West

Dick Contino, accordionist, headlines the L. A. Orpheum Theater bill starting March 8. No pit band will be used during Contino's seven-day run.

Smash!



His first west coast concert's a smash. Stan Kenton swings east this month with his powerful and revolutionary new 40-piece orchestra. These photos, by Robert S. Harrah, show Kenton and his men recorded their new album for Capitol, to be released March 10 nationally. The trumpet player upper right, is sparked by Buddy Childers on first horn; Shelly Manne is back at the drums. Maynard Ferguson, lower right, is Kenton's newest discovery. He's a Canadian virtuoso who is playing most of the first horn in the new band. After a three-month tour, Stan will return to Hollywood to prepare new music for his 1951 concert series.



• Sagebrush Stuff •

Tex Williams Shooting New Western Film

By BEEP ROBERTS

Tex Williams is back on the Universal-International lot facing those big cameras and making like a cowboy again, this time in "Rustlers' Ransom." His heart interest, Leslie Banning, is married to Lawrence Russell, brother of Jane.

Wakely To Chicago

Williams and his sidekicks, Deuce Spriggins and Smokey Rogers, also are busy with their TV shows on Hollywood's NBC station KNBH. And Tex's new platter of "With Men Who Know Tobacco Best, It's Women Two To One," is now his second-best seller and can possibly eventually top his 1947 click, "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke."

Jimmy Wakely is appearing at the Oriental Theater in Chicago through March 9, a run that is simultaneous with the release of his newest Cap platter, "Dust."

Short Takes

Tennessee Ernie is guest on the National Barn Dance over ABC March 11. . . . Eddie and Barbara Kirk parented a daughter, Diana



TEX RITTER—and he really does hail from Texas—guested with Art Linkletter on Art's CBS "House Party" program last month, one of numerous airshots Tex has been making in connection with his own Cap plattering of "The Pledge Of Allegiance." Civic officials, columnists, teachers and others have written Ritter complimenting him on the biscuit.

Lee. . . . Tex Ritter received word that his autographed hat, auctioned off in Coeburn, N. C., for the school band, received the highest bid. Even topped the bids for Prez Truman's autograph. . . . Hank Thompson is back in Dallas after a tour, and he brought back a new tune of his own which he recorded when Lee Gillette swept through the Lone Star state with his Capitol tape-box. Watch for "All That Goes Up Must Come Down." Several top western stars will be at the Capitol exhibit March 6-7-8 at Chi's Palmer House at the National Coin Machine conclave. . . . Roy Hogsed and his group are working in San Diego.



MATT WEINSTOCK

In the Los Angeles Daily News

"Sitting by a wood fire, looking out the window at the splashing raindrops the other day, we heard a familiar tinkle. And it occurred to us one of the things we'd least like to be is an itinerant Good Humor or even an Eskimo Pie man on a rainy day.

"In a few moments he cruised by, sitting upright at the unprotected steering wheel, hatless, and smiling at the rain lashing his face. Or perhaps he was smiling ironically at his musical thingamajig playing, at full volume, 'Rose Marie, I Love You.' Or possibly he was grimacing, the same as we brace ourself each time he passes, for a classic discord at the end of the lyric that goes, 'I'm always thinking of you.'

"We are sure that if Arnold Schoenberg, the dissonance man, or Stan Kenton, the progressive jazz man, heard this chord they would utter cries of triumph, embrace it to their breasts and slap it into a symphony titled 'Train Whistle In Yorba Linda' or 'Garbage Can Cacophony In Gardena' or something. It isn't ordinary dissonance, it's at least three notes off what was intended.

"We have come to cherish this note as this young man drives by. We have the feeling the Good Humor people are eugenically breeding a race of supermen, allergic to nothing. Anyone who can sit there all day and listen to that note and not crack up is going to do all right. Even if no one buys popsicles all day long."

STAN KENTON

In the London Melody Maker

"When a crisis takes place in any field, and one is certainly taking place in jazz at this present time, those who are along for the ride are quick to get out. Bop is currently in the midst of a thorough housecleaning, and

Charlie Barnet Forms 'Funny Band' On Coast

"The life of a personal manager is even worse than a bandleader's," Charlie Barnet snorted in late February. And so his deal with Carlos Gastel in the management field was abruptly abrogated and the Mab promptly rounded up a new band, reportedly the smallest—but most showmanly—of any he's ever led.

Barnet, who junked his screaming, bop-tinged orchestra shortly before Christmas to take a fling at management, now fronts an 8-piece combo with Frances Wayne set as singer. He's been breaking in his new crew at Topp's in San Diego. On April 13, he'll open at the New Orleans Swing Club in San Francisco.

Along with the Mab's saxophones and Wayne's voice are Barret Deems, Chicago drummer; Eddie Shu, who plays sax, harmonica and also goes into a ventriloquist's act; Neal Hefti, trumpet; Bob Daves, saxes; Dick Kenny, trombone; Sheldon Smith, piano; Charlie Drayton, bass, and Dick Guyet, guitar. For the first time in his career, Barnet is selling showmanship. "We've got a complete show," he says. "Lotsa laughs, lotsa music."

Charlie, however, isn't playing any Dixieland. He says the Dixie field, on the west coast, already is overcrowded.

when it is rid of its trash, we will once more have a thrilling music that is altogether most effective."

NED WILLIAMS

In a Down Beat Editorial

"The late Ben Bernie once was asked why he gave such generous pats on the back to Vincent Lopez and other rival bandleaders in interviews with newspapermen. 'We're all in the same racket to-



ART TATUM, flashiest of all flash pianists, makes his debut this month as a Capitol recording artist with an album of his scintillating Steinway solos. For 15 years a national favorite, Tatum has been working at the Surf Club in Los Angeles.

gether," he replied, 'selling dance music to the public. If I can boost the stock of another band, I'm indirectly boosting myself. If I say another bandleader's music stinks, he has a right to say my music stinks, and soon the public will begin believing that we both stink.' . . . We think Ben was 20 years ahead of his time."

EZIO PINZA

In Etude Magazine

"I am absolutely against the idea of starting to study singing too early. At 16 the voice is not yet developed. I suggest waiting at least another two years. I started at 19."

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MARVIN ASH, one of the all-time greats of rag and Dixie piano renown, assembled this 21-karat krew recently in Capitol's Hollywood studios to needle two fine sides which have just been released under Ash's name. Left to right, the group includes Andy Secrest, cornet star of the old Paul Whiteman band; Nappy Lamare, guitar; Cajun Verret, trombone; Ash, Eddie Miller, tenor sax; Country Washburne, string bass, and down front, New Orleans' own Zutty Singleton behind the tubs. The titles include Ash's own "Pearl House Rag" and a street parade treatment of "Sweethearts On Parade." Ash also is featured in Capitol's new "Honky Tonk Piano" album.

20 Tunes For 'Katy'

Twenty tunes are being used in Monogram's "Square Dance Katy" film now in production and starring Jimmie Davis, the singing ex-governor of Louisiana; Phil Brito and Vera Vague. Cass Daley, announced last month for the picture, will not be seen.

Jean Yarbrough is directing and Lindsley Parsons is the producer.

Brito will sing "Yellow Bonnets And Polka Dot Shoes," "Valley Of

N. Y. Paramount Next For Nat Cole

King Cole and the Trio shoot for New York's Broadway immediately after closing at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco on March 5. The Nat and his men are signed for three weeks at the New York Paramount Theater beginning March 8.

The Saints" and "Hi, Neighbor," and will also do "You Hold The Reins" as a duet with Virginia Welles. The latter will solo "Fargo Fanny," "Don't Just Stand There, Do Something," "Jingle Bells" and "Silent Night." Jimmie Davis will sing "Take Me Back To Tulsa" and "I Struck Out."

Les Brown Will Spend Easter At The Beach

Les Brown opens the resort season at nerby Balboa Beach, Cal., where the Stan Kenton band was born in '41, playing all of Easter week. Les's crew, still on the Bob Hope NBC show, recently has been playing Saturdays only at the L. A. Trianon Ballroom. In April, the Duke University alum will fly his band all the way to Florida, stopping off at various places en route, and then wing back to Hollywood within a single week. After Hope's show goes off the air for the summer, Brown will again tour in the east.



DISCUSSIONS as to Judy Garland's future in films have ended abruptly with Dore Schary's announcement that, immediately following the completion of Judy's current "Summer Stock" chore at Metro, she will begin "Showboat." That's the old Edna Ferber story which has always been successful, theatrically.

Miss Garland's frequent illnesses had, earlier, led to widespread reports that she would make no more movies.

A long vocal solo by Betty Hutton of the "Go West" sequence in the MGM film version of "Annie Get Your Gun" has been chopped out of the finished picture following a sneak preview. The leaves 10 songs, all by Irving Berlin, in the flicker, including "There's No Business Like Show Business," "Doin' What Comes Naturally," "You Can't Get a Man With A Gun," "I'm An Indian, Too," "They Say It's Wonderful," "Anything You Can Do, I Got The Sun In The Morning," "Colonel Buffalo Bill," "My Dimples Are Down" and "The Girl That I Marry."

Patty Andrews of the singlasses filed suit for divorce against Marty Melcher, Hollywood agent, charging cruelty. They were wed Oct. 19, 1947.

A motor car crash killed Buddy Stewart, 29-year-old singer formerly with Claude Thornhill and Gene Krupa, outside Deming, N. M. It was Buddy, with Dave Lambert, who started the recent "bop scatting" vocal style during the war. He is survived by his widow, Jeri, and one child.

Danny Kaye and Warner Brothers tore up their contract for "mutual consent." Kaye will now produce his own movies.



BACK ON the Pacific coast after several years in the east, Claude Thornhill and his music are the current bandstand attraction at the Hollywood Palladium. The Indiana pianist and arranger followed Freddy Martin and will remain at the Palladium throughout March.

Stabile's Band In 'Irma' Film

Dick Stabile and his orchestra have been given a spot in the Hal Wallis production of "My Friend Irma Goes West" which now is shooting on the Paramount lot. The flicker stars Marie Wilson, Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis and others. Stabile, who came up the pike as a saxophone soloist with the late Ben Bernie's crew, has been making California his home since the war and frequently appears in night clubs where Martin and Lewis are appearing.

Chi Greets Luther

Her appearances on the west coast ended, Nellie Luther moves into Chicago this month for two weeks at the Oriental Theater followed by 10 nights at the Silhouette starting March 10. Earl Hyde, drums, and Benny Booker, bass, are with her.



YOU CAN'T find a plushier, more expensive after-dark spot than the Mocambo in all the 48 states. It is Hollywood's most glamorous bistro. But those who have been dropping in the club Monday nights are finding an earthy, unhinty atmosphere prevailing as the Firehouse Five, Plus Two, hold forth on the ornate bandstand.

The FFPT combo is strictly from Dixie, and its members wear vivid red firemen's shirts (and white chief's hats) to emphasize their hook-and-ladder jazz style. Trombonist Ward Kimball is the leader. It all adds up, however, for even the Mocambo management has learned that Dixieland jazz orks are the only ones on the west coast doing any plus business these nights.

Red Nichols, Pete Dailly's Chicagoans, Ben Pollack, Kid Ory, Ted Vesely, Skippy Anderson, Bob Smietan and Nappy Lamare, meanwhile, also are leading Dixie combos with great success in the Los Angeles area alone.

And whatever happened to bop?

Piano solos are still in vogue. Art Tatum has been singling at the Surf Club in L. A. and Jess Stacy is pounding his Baldwin at the Radar Room. They've been top names in jazz for 15 years.

Dale Cross, for several years leader of the "small band" at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, died suddenly while playing an engagement in Kansas City. He was a Sammy Kaye sideman before he formed his own combo. Drummer Joe Oliver has been leading the group since Cross' death.

Nat and Marie Cole's daughter, born at Cedars of Lebanon Feb. 6 and weighing 11 ounces over seven pounds, was named Natalie Marie. The next day, the Coles changed her name to Stephanie Maria. Then, after a third con-

ference, the daughter's handle became Natalie Maria Cole and it hadn't been changed again as the Cap News went to press. And "Yes, Sir, That's My Baby" has been one of Pappy's best-selling discs recently, Nat added.

Dinah Shore, back home in Hollywood after performing at New York's Waldorf-Astoria, is booked for a March 17 opening at the Shamrock Hotel in Houston.

Robert Armbruster replaced Henry Russell as music director of NBC, western division, in February.

Billy Eckstine, after playing a one-nighter at Balboa Beach March 18, scoots east to open Easter week at the New York Paramount.

Thunderbird Hotel in Las Vegas will have Clark Dennis as headliner for its Easter show starting March 30 for a fortnight.

Ginny Simms has again filed suit for divorce against Hyatt Dehn. First suit, in June of '48, was tossed out when the couple became reconciled.

Republic Studios will resume its "Hit Parade" movies, the last one having been made back in 1947. New series, however, will be more dramatic than musical.

Martin and Lewis did not sign with CBS, as last month's Cap News indicated. NBC retains all teevee rights to the team, too.

Jerry Gray will take a band out on the road this summer when "Club 15" fades off CBS.

WHOO'S WHERE

JAN GARBER: Coconut Grove, opening March 7.
 RED NICHOLS: Sardi's Monkey Room.
 ALVINO REY: Hotel Roosevelt.
 CHUY REYES: Hotel Roosevelt.
 KID ORY: Royal Room.
 BEN POLLACK: Beverly Cavern.
 JESS STACY: Radar Room.
 CLAUDE THORNHILL: Palladium.
 PAUL NEIGHBORS: Hotel Biltmore.
 DICK STABILE: Ciro's.
 ARTHUR VAN: Colonial Ballroom.
 FREDDY SLACK: Astor Bar.
 KAY KALIE: York Club.
 DICK PETERSON: Zamboanga.
 MEL HENKE: Hi-Ho Inn.
 MATT DENNIS: Encore.
 WALTER GROSS: Nick Arden's.



DORIS DAY clutches Kirk Douglas, trumpet-tooting hero of "Young Man With A Horn," in this scene from the Warner Brothers' film. That's Lauren Bacall at right, Kirk's bride. Musicians rate it a fast handkerchief picture; the ridiculous ending and the soundtrack music turned out just the opposite of what the story's author, Dorothy Baker, actually intended. But the studio figures it will be box-office.

MGM Sets 11 Old Fave Kenton's Tour... Tunes For 'Words' Film

(From Page 5)

papers have attended in a professional capacity and devoted generous space to Stan's unconventional offerings. There have been numerous charges that Kenton's new style is not jazz. But Stan himself avers that it is, even though much of the new book is not in strict tempo.

A total of 16 sides were recorded for Capitol shortly before the band played its first formal concert in Seattle on Feb. 9. Eight of those are in the forthcoming album. Two sides—a single disc—is being released just ahead of the album.

Heading For Carnegie Hall

Pete Rugolo has been—and will continue to be—Kenton's aide. Pete helped hire the musicians, including 16 string experts, and contributed a major portion of new manuscript. He also acts as assistant conductor.

The Kenton itinerary for April will be published in the April issue of the Cap News. New York's Carnegie Hall is booked at that time, and so are Boston and Philadelphia.

Metro, mightiest of the Hollywood mighty motion picture canneries, has selected 11 old tunes clefled by Harry Ruby and Bert Kalmar to be featured in "Three Little Words," the lavish MGM musical now shooting and starring Fred Astaire, Red Skelton, Vera-Ellen, Phil Regan and John Dahl.

Producer Jack Cummings culled the ditties from a long list of Ruby-Kalmar hits. The picture, in fact, is based on the careers of the two writers. Richard Thorpe directs—in Technicolor.

Tunes are "Who's Sorry Now?" "I Love You So Much," "Thinking Of You," "All Alone Monday," "So Long, Oolong," "Come On, Papa," "Nevertheless," "I Wanna Be Loved By You," "Where Did You Get That Girl?" "My Sunny Tennessee" and the title song, "Three Little Words."

The studio also has announced titles of songs to be heard in its forthcoming "Kiss Of Fire" flick which stars Kathryn Grayson, Mario Lanza and David Niven.

Ranging from the operatic American folk ballads, the songs comprise "Bayou Lullaby," "Boom-Biddy-Boom-Boom," "Time Lina," by Nicholas Brodsky and Sammy Cahn; "Je Suis Titania" from opera, "Mignon"; "O Lucia Di Quest' Animo," from Donizetti's "Chamounix"; duet from "Madame Butterfly," by Puccini; "Manzana," from Flotow's opera "Martha."

MEET THE JOCKEY!

HARRY CURRAN hits the waves in Richmond, Va., every afternoon at 2 for 90 minutes.



recorded music. His station, WXGI, and was as a that Harry started in radio, with AF on the Isle Minoro in the Philippines. Curran answers every fan letter on "Curran's Corner" he plays types of platters. He's heard 950 on the dial daily at 2.

Capitol Hits

'BROKEN DOWN MERRY-GO-ROUND'
Whiting-Wakely

'BIBBIDI-BOBBIDI-BOO'-Stafford-MacRae

'BEES AND THE BIRDS'-Yogi Yorgesson

'I SAID MY PAJAMAS'-Whiting-DeVol

'COUNT EVERY STAR'-Ray Anthony

'THIRD MAN THEME SONG'-Alvino Rey

'WILHELMINA'-Jan Garber

'SUNSHINE CAKE'-Peggy Lee

'DEARIE'-Stafford-MacRae

'OLD PIANO ROLL BLUES'-The Jubalaires

all on either 78 or 45 rpm

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Kicks For The Kids



HAROLD LLOYD, most famous comedian in the world 20 years ago and now the Imperial Potentate of the Shrine, still wears tortoise glasses and a big smile as he accepts a truckload of children's albums on Tommy Bartlett's "Welcome, Travelers" NBC program at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago. Making the presentation to Lloyd, at left, is Capitol's Ray Marchbanks, Midwest regional sales manager, while Bartlett holds a handful of albums at the right. The records will be sent by Lloyd to every Shriner's hospital for children in America.